



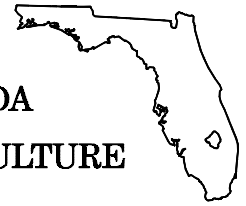
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FIELD CROPS

POTATO STOCKS

FLORIDA AGRICULTURE



March 15, 2001

POTATO STOCKS RECORD HIGH, UP 17 PERCENT

March 1, 2001 potato stocks totaled a record high 198 million cwt, up 17 percent from last year and 14 percent above two years ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 43 percent of the fall storage States' production, up 3 percentage points from a year ago. This year's record high stocks exceeded the previous record set March 1, 1997 by 5 percent.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to March 1 was a record high 264 million cwt. This disappearance was up 5 percent from last year and 4 percent above the previous record set during the 1996 season. The disappearance during February was 36.7 million cwt, down 2 percent from the record high February disappearance established last year. Shrink and loss to this point in the season was 31.5 million cwt, up 26 percent from last year and 27 percent above two years ago. This disappearance and loss total includes potatoes diverted and destroyed by growers under a cooperative program to reduce surpluses.

Processing of the 2000 crop totaled 132 million cwt to March 1, up 2 percent from the 1999 crop and 1 percent above two years ago in comparable States. In February, processors used 18.6 million cwt, down 8 percent from last year in comparable States.

Eastern States stored 10.1 million cwt of potatoes on March 1, 2001, down 11 percent from a year ago but 2 percent above two years ago. Maine's holdings were down 7 percent and New York's stocks were off 46 percent from last year. Pennsylvania's storage was equal to last year.

Central States accounted for 38.6 million cwt of stocks this March 1, 19 percent above March 2000 but 1 percent below 1999. Minnesota's stocks were up 63 percent and the Nebraska-Ohio combination was up 52 percent. Stocks in North Dakota were up 23 percent from last year. Wisconsin's stocks were down 1 percent and Michigan's stocks were 19 percent below a year ago.

Western States held 150 million cwt of potatoes in storage on March 1, 2001, up 19 percent from last year and 20 percent above 1999. Washington's stocks were up 43 percent from a year ago, while Idaho's stocks increased 15 percent, and Oregon's were up 12 percent. Colorado's stocks were up 1 percent from last year and Montana was up 11 percent. California's stocks were down 28 percent from a year ago.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on March 1, 2000 and 2001

State	Crop of 1999			Crop of 2000		
	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 2000	Percent of production	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 2001 ^{1/}	February as percent of production
	1,000 cwt		Percent	1,000 cwt		Percent
California	4,005	1,800	45	3,741	1,300	35
Colorado	25,762	12,900	50	27,972	13,000	46
Idaho	133,330	65,000	49	152,320	75,000	49
Maine	17,813	9,400	53	17,920	8,700	49
Michigan	14,963	4,200	28	14,963	3,400	23
Minnesota	18,020	6,200	34	21,240	10,100	48
Montana	3,325	2,700	81	3,503	3,000	86
Nebraska ^{2/}	8,904			10,127		
New York	6,758	1,300	19	5,964	700	12
North Dakota	26,400	9,000	34	26,950	11,100	41
Ohio ^{2/}	987			1,134		
Oregon	28,020	15,500	55	30,683	17,300	56
Pennsylvania	3,080	700	23	3,510	700	20
Washington	95,200	28,000	29	108,000	40,000	37
Wisconsin	34,000	10,600	31	33,800	10,500	31
Other States		2,320			3,520	
Total 15 States	420,567	169,620	40	461,827	198,320	43

^{1/} Stocks include processor holding and seed to plant 2001 crop. Seed usage in 2000 totaled 29.7 million cwt.

^{2/} Blank States combined into "Other States".

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, nine States, 1997 through 2000 ^{1/}

State	Crop year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	To Jun 1 ^{2/}	Entire season
1,000 cwt									
Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon	1997	26,880	33,950	41,050	49,470	57,620	65,750		91,450
	1998	27,510	34,700	42,670	51,210	60,040	68,550	76,410	92,860
	1999	27,970	34,490	40,790	49,220	57,820	66,080	74,110	88,210
	2000	29,290	35,720	43,470	50,580				
Maine ^{3/}	1997	1,250	1,720	2,265	2,735	3,355	3,900		5,870
	1998	1,430	1,935	2,530	2,985	3,595	4,180	4,705	5,945
	1999	1,270	1,700	2,385	3,070	3,765	4,560	5,150	6,670
	2000	1,845	2,475	3,105	3,695				
Washington and Other areas, Oregon	1997	28,580	33,990	38,690	46,400	53,720	59,780		76,930
	1998	33,630	38,890	45,650	53,290	60,930	67,180	74,190	83,730
	1999	33,320	39,620	45,500	53,350	61,080	67,230	74,840	83,210
	2000	34,770	40,970	47,720	55,250				
Other States ^{4/}	1997	11,645	13,960	17,115	19,905	23,515	26,365		37,842
	1998	11,570	14,465	18,030	20,850	24,850	28,190	31,365	39,865
	1999	12,455	15,035	17,950	20,855	24,305	27,220	30,410	36,435
	^{5/} 2000	12,650	16,235	18,625	22,030				
Total	1997	68,355	83,620	99,120	118,510	138,210	155,795		212,092
	1998	74,140	89,990	108,880	128,335	149,415	168,100	186,670	222,400
	1999	75,015	90,845	106,625	126,495	146,970	165,090	184,510	214,525
	^{5/} 2000	78,555	95,400	112,920	131,555				

^{1/} Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Amount excludes quantities used for potato chips in ME, MI, and WI. ^{2/} Data not available prior to 1998. ^{3/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only. ^{4/} MN, ND, NV, SD, and WI in 2000. MI, MN, ND, and WI in 1997-1999. ^{5/} January 1 and February 1 data revised.

FALL POTATOES: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1991 through 2000

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1 ^{1/}
1,000 Cwt								
1991	363,541	242,070	211,005	178,515	145,820	108,865	69,110	
1992	368,516	246,820	215,990	184,560	152,795	115,785	75,040	
1993	376,954	249,410	217,300	185,490	153,435	115,170	72,860	
1994	410,839	273,290	238,560	202,470	169,570	129,825	87,600	
1995	394,785	256,710	223,550	189,360	156,020	115,855	75,870	
1996	443,704	295,100	261,320	226,080	189,210	147,635	103,210	
1997	413,513	278,830	246,550	212,562	175,870	134,190	92,840	
1998	423,170	280,910	246,230	209,640	173,650	131,220	87,895	50,270
1999	420,567	275,100	239,910	207,150	169,620	128,410	86,915	47,220
2000	461,827	309,520	272,960	235,050	198,320			

^{1/} Data not available prior to 1998.